

- ◇ **Equity**
- ◇ **Accountable Leadership**
- ◇ **Public Auto Insurance**
- ◇ **Policy based election platform**

Leadership

Kormos Wins Debate!



The Party for the Future

The Policy is the government!

“I have confidence in you who are assembled here to develop the policies that would be the basis for the next government.”

“We are a party to which policy has always been everything.”

Kormos states that as leader he would make policy development his first priority. He believes that the NDP provincial caucus must follow the policies agreed upon at Provincial Council and Convention.

“If we had maintained our well-developed policies in government, especially in key areas like Social Assistance Reform and Auto Insurance, the work would have paid off. As it was we were inconsistent.”

In reply to Frances Lankin’s assertion of commitment to party policy, Kormos said, “Where were you in government, Frances?”

“If we are going to talk about rebuilding education, we also have to talk about rebuilding our relationship with educators.”

“You can’t reform education without a relationship of trust with educators. You don’t do

that with Social Contracts. You don’t do that with forcing a College of Teachers down educators’ throats.

Public Ownership is the key for real economic reform.

We must commit now to restore to public ownership any publicly owned corporation that the Mike Harris Tories sell off to their friends.

Public ownership is the key to real economic reform in this province. It is the only way to ensure that the people of Ontario maintain control of jobs and investment.

Public auto insurance is one of the key areas that we have agreed as a party that we will act on. We reaffirmed that this morning! What better way to demonstrate to Canadians that public ownership makes sense for equity, and to preserve investment in Ontario.

“It’s been a long road to Damascus, sisters and brothers,” Kormos replies as other candidates endorse Public Auto.

The Podium

Inspired Questions & Answers from recent meetings and leadership debates

Members Ask:

Q The meanspirited cuts of the Tory government have been very discouraging to some of our traditional supporters. What would you do to restore their faith in the political process?

A Members of the NDP caucus need to be strong voices for those who cannot get access to this government. As individual members and as riding associations, we need to be engaged in supporting the struggle of affected labour groups and anti-poverty coalitions. We need to host public meetings, supply information and perform the kind of advocacy and political education roles that the NDP has always made a priority.

As leader, I would also see it as my business to make party membership meaningful. When rank and file members know that they are listened to and their contributions make a difference, they will carry that message out to the community.

Q How would you explain the NDP's Social Contract to the Labour Movement to regain their support?

A There is nothing to explain. The Social Contract was an abandonment of the NDP's long-held respect for the rights of working women and men.

Only by acknowledging the Social Contract was a profound mistake and reaffirming the party's

commitment to upholding collective agreements can we begin to restore the trust that was built through years of work and destroyed by a hasty piece of legislation. It would be difficult for any leader who was a part of the Social Contract process to fully regain the trust of all labour.

Q If you were to become Premier, would you consider privatizing Ontario government services?

A Ontario services like Ontario Hydro and the LCBO are not the property of the Ontario government. They are the property of the people of Ontario. It is wrong for any government to consider privatization of public resources.

Q What role would youth have in the party with you as Leader?

A I recognize that youth have many and varied skills to contribute to the party. They are not just bodies to deliver campaign literature and bang up signs. Their interests are not always confined to typical youth concerns.

They are as much individuals as any of our other members and we are short-changing ourselves if we do not listen to them, discover their skills and utilize their expertise in the appropriate roles.

In addition, those who join the NDP at a younger age show the kind of interest that may lead to a career in politics. We should be ensuring

that our youth are getting every opportunity to develop the skills to run campaigns, to win campaigns, and to be knowledgeable MPP's in future.

Q What would you do as Premier if you and your caucus felt it was necessary to change from party policy?

A If we do our homework now, this problem shouldn't arise very often. Forced into this situation we must go back to the party, explain the situation and ask for their guidance. I respect the insight and wisdom that our members represent. Once again, the ultimate leadership must come from the party.

Kormos for a Working Ontario

You can reach Peter at

Kormos for a Working Ontario

24 Ridgepoint Drive
St. Catharines, Ontario
L2T 2S9

phone: (905) 227-6030

fax: (905) 227-8827

approved by the CFO for the
Kormos Leadership Campaign

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